

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
 - 2 sending a message to a receiving module, the message comprising at least one
 - 3 function supported by a sending module along with at least one corresponding function
 - 4 pointer to the at least one function supported by the sending module;
 - 5 receiving from the receiving module a message including at least one function
 - 6 supported by the receiving module along with at least one corresponding function
 - 7 pointer to the at least one function supported by the receiving module; and
 - 8 communicating with the receiving module using the at least one function
 - 9 pointer to the at least one function supported by the receiving module.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - 2 determining functions that are called directly, by the sending module and the
 - 3 receiving module; and
 - 4 building an interface using the functions that are called directly, by the sending
 - 5 module and the receiving module.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 further comprising communicating with the receiving
- 2 module using messages if the receiving module does not support a particular function.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the sending module and the receiving module
- 2 are locally disposed on a bus.

1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the bus is at least one of a peripheral component
2 interconnect (PCI) bus, an EISA bus, a PCIX bus, a 3GIO bus, a hyper-transport bus,
3 and an infiniband architecture.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving module communicates with at
2 least one of a controller, and a storage device.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the controller is a network controller.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the sending module and the receiving module
2 communicate with each other via a first processor.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the first processor communicates with a second
2 processor via a bus.

1 10. A method comprising:

2 receiving a message from a sending module, the message comprising of at least
3 one function supported by a sending module along with at least one corresponding
4 function pointer to the at least one function supported by the sending module;

5 sending the sending module a message including at least one function supported
6 by a receiving module along with at least one corresponding function pointer to the at
7 least one function supported by the receiving module; and

1 communicating with the sending module using the function pointer to the at
2 least one function supported by the receiving module.

1 11. The method of claim 10 further comprising:

2 determining functions are called directly, by the sending module and the
3 receiving module; and

4 building an interface using the functions that can be called directly, by the
5 sending module and the receiving module.

1 12. The method of claim 10 further comprising communicating with the sending
2 module using messages if the receiving module does not support a particular function.

1 13. An apparatus comprising:

2 a bus ;

3 a processor communicatively coupled with the bus, said processor to

4 send a message to a receiving module, the message comprising at least one
5 function supported by a sending module along with at least one corresponding function
6 pointer to the at least one function supported by the sending module;

7 receive from the receiving module a message including at least one function
8 supported by the receiving module along with at least one corresponding function
9 pointer to the at least one function supported by the receiving module; and

10 communicate with the receiving module using the function pointer to the at least
11 one function supported by the receiving module.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 13 further comprising said processor to

2 determine functions that are called directly, by the sending module and the
3 receiving module; and

4 build an interface using the functions that are called directly, by the sending
5 module and the receiving module.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 13 further comprising said processor to communicate
2 with the receiving module using messages if the receiving module does not support a
3 particular function.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the sending module and the receiving
2 module are locally disposed on a bus.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the receiving module communicates with at
2 least one of a controller, and a storage device.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the controller is a network controller.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the processor communicates with a second
2 processor via a bus.

1 20. An article of manufacture comprising:
2 a machine-accessible medium including instructions that, when executed by a
3 machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising
4 sending a message to a receiving module, the message comprising at least one
5 function supported by a sending module along with at least one corresponding function
6 pointer to the at least one function supported by the sending module;

7 receiving from the receiving module a message including at least one function
8 supported by the receiving module along with at least one corresponding function
9 pointer to the at least one function supported by the receiving module; and
10 communicating with the receiving module using the at least one function pointer to the
11 at least one function supported by the receiving module.

1 21. The article of manufacture as in claim 20, further comprising instructions for
2 determining functions that can be called directly, by the sending module and the
3 receiving module; and
4 building an interface using the functions that can be called directly, by the
5 sending module and the receiving module.

1 22. The article of manufacture as in claim 20, further comprising instructions for
2 communicating with the receiving module using messages if the receiving module does
3 not support a particular function.

1 23. The article of manufacture as in claim 20, wherein said instructions for
2 communicating with the receiving module using the at least one function pointer to the
3 at least one function supported by the receiving module includes further instructions for
4 communicating with at least one of a controller, and a storage device.

1 24. An article of manufacture comprising:
2 a machine-accessible medium including instructions that, when executed by a
3 machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising

4 receiving a message from a sending module, the message comprising at least
5 one function supported by a sending module along with a corresponding function
6 pointer to the at least one function supported by the sending module;
7 sending to the sending module a message including at least one function
8 supported by the receiving module along with a corresponding function pointers to the
9 at least one function supported by the receiving module; and
10 communicating with the sending module using the function pointer to the at least one
11 function supported by the receiving module.

1 25. The article of manufacture as in claim 24, further comprising instructions for
2 determining functions that can be called directly, by the sending module and the
3 receiving module; and
4 building an interface using the functions that can be called directly, by the
5 sending module and the receiving module.

1 26. The article of manufacture as in claim 24, further comprising instructions for
2 communicating with the sending module using messages if the receiving module does
3 not support a particular function.